

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /146 W
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P 222215Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7132
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 03581

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS, CU, FAO, PN
SUBJECT: CUBAN PARTICIPATION IN WECAFC MEETINGS

REF: PANAMA 3524

1. CUBAN PARTICIPATION IN SUBJECT MEETING HAS BEEN VIGOROUS AND EXTENSIVE. THE DELEGATION IS HEADED BY VICE FISHERIES MINISTER OLTUSKI WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CUBAN INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE PESCA AND WAS FORMERLY THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE FISHERIES MINISTRY. OLTUSKI IS A CAPABLE, WELL PREPARED CHAIRMAN WHO HAS LED THE MEETINGS WITH SOME VIGOR.

2. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE LARGE CUBAN DELEGATION INCLUDE DR. R. PEREZ FERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIONES PESQUERAS; J. FERNANDEZ-CALZAT, CHIEF OF THE DEPARTAMENTO DE COLEBORACION ECONOMICA; L. FONT CHAVEZ, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIONES PESQUERAS;
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AND LIC. F. CARBONELL ELIF, CUBAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL IN PANAMA.

3. THE CUBAN DELEGATION HAS PROMOTED THREE MATTERS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN.
(A) EXTENSION OF WECAFC COMMISSION AREA DISCUSSED IN REFTEL;

(B) AN OFFER TO ESTABLISH A REGIONAL FISHERIES TRAINING CENTER IN CUBA;

(C) CUBAN ELECTION AS THE NEXT COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AND AN AS YET UNOFFICIAL PROPOSAL TO HOLD THE THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION IN HAVANA. (OLTUSKI IS CURRENTLY THE COMMISSION FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN, BUT IS SERVING AS CHAIRMAN DUE TO RESIGNATION OF THE COMMISSION'S CHAIRMAN.) IN ADDITION, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT COMMISSION OFFICERS CAN STAND RE-ELECTION.

4. AT THE PRESENT TIME, IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT ANY OTHER DELEGATION IS LIKELY TO SEEK ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN TO OFFER TO HOST THE COMMISSION'S THIRD SESSION.

5. OLTULSKI SOUGHT ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN AT THE COMMISSION' FIRST SESSION IN TRINIDAD-TOBAGO, BUT THE CHAIRMANSHIP FINALLY WENT TO MR. PADMORE, THE FORMER MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LANDS AND FISHERIES OF TRINIDAD-TOBAGO AS IT WAS FELT THAT CUBA WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO ATTRACT GREATER PARTICIPATION IN WECAFC. FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS CALL COMMERCE, NOAA, NMFS, F42 (FOX).

6. CUBAN SUPPORT FOR THE PANAMANIAN INTEREST IN EXTENDING THE COMMISSION AREA (REFTEL) MAY BE AT ATTEMPT TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR OLTUSKI'S ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN.

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7. PLEASE PASS TO OES/OFA - STORER AND COMMERCE, NOAA, NMFS, F4 (RYAN, BLANDIN, WALLACE). JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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